the Railway Protection Act, when it was in existence, the Police was given the responsibility to protect the property of the railways, and not the person or the passenger. Now, they have amended the law, and they have given this responsibility to the Railway Protection Police Force members also to protect the property as well as the person or the passenger as the railway property also. Now this is there. But what you are saying is really correct; it is not possible for the State Governments to protect the person or the passenger on board if they are not there, and that is why, it has to be, under the amended law, the responsibility of the Railway Protection Police Force to provide the protection to them.

*405. [The questioner (Shri Rajnath Singh) was absent. For answer *vide* page 41.]

Development of wastelands

*406. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI KB. KRISHNAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of wastelands in the country as on date;

(b) what is the policy of Government to develop wastelands and quantum of funds allocated for the same during the last three years;

(c) the quantum of wastelands developed during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) whether there is any policy of Government to distribute wastelands amongst landless peasants?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) According to the Wastelands Atlas of India, published in 2005 by the Department of Land Resources in collaboration with the National Remote Sensing Agency, the total wasteland in the country is 552.69 lakh ha. State-wise details of wastelands are given in enclosed Statement-I

(b) and (c) The aim of wasteland development is to improve degraded and wastelands through efficient adoption of the principles of restoration, conservation and ecological balance. Accordingly, the guidelines for the area development programmes of the Department of Land Resources have been formulated on the wasteland approach. The activities under these programmes include soil and moisture conservation works, harvesting of rain water, afforestation, horticulture, floriculture, development of pasture lands, fisheries, etc. to generate employment in the rural areas. To check overuse of natural resources and to ensure its efficient management, the schemes have adopted the participatory approach encourages village communities towards sustained community action for the maintenance of assets created and promotes simple, easy and affordable technolgical sulutions. As these are demand driven schemes, funds are not allocated State-wise. The funds released and area treated during the last three years under the area development programmes are given in enclosed Statement-ll.

(d) Land and its management falls under the exclusive jurisdiction of States under Entry No. 18 of Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. State Governments distribute Government wastelands to the eligible landless rural poor. According to the reports received from the State Governments, an area of 147.47 lakh acres of Government wastelands has been distirbuted so far.

Statement-I

State-wise wastelands of India (as per wastelands atlas of India, 2005)

(Area in Sq. Kms)

Sl.No.	State	No. of Districts covered	Total Geog. Area of distts. covered	Total Wastelands area in distts. covered	% of wastelands to total Geog. Area
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	275068	45267.15	16.46
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	83743	18175.95	21.70
3.	Assam	23	78438	14034.08	17.89
4.	Bihar	37	94171	5443.68	5.78
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	135194	7584.15	5.61
6.	Goa	2	3702	531.29	14.35
7.	Gujarat	25	196024	20377.74	10.40

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Haryana	19	44212	3266.45	7.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12	55673	28336.8	50.90
10.	J&K	14	101387	70201.99	69.24
11.	Jharkhand	19	79706	11165.26	14.01
12.	Karnataka	27	191791	13536.58	7.06
13.	Kerala	14	38863	1788.8	4.60
14.	Madhya Pradesh	49	308252	57134.03	18.53
15.	Maharashtra	33	307690	49275.41	16.01
16.	Manipur	9	22327	13174.74	59.01
17.	Meghalaya	7	22429	3411.41	15.21
18.	Mizoram	8	21081	4469.88	21.20
19.	Nagaland	7	16579	3709.4	22.37
20.	Orissa	30	155707	18952.74	12.17
21.	Punjab	17	50362	1172.84	2.33
22.	Rajasthan	32	342239	101453.86	29.64
23.	Sikkim	4	7096	3808.21	53.67
24.	Tripura	4	10486	1322.97	12.62
25.	Tamil Nadu	29	130058	17303.29	13.30
26.	Uttaranchal	13	53483	16097.46	30.10
27.	Uttar Pradesh	70	240928	16984.16	7.05
28.	West Bengal	18	88752	4397.56	4.95
29.	Union Territories	20	10973	314.38	2.87
	TOTAL:	597	3166414	552692.25	17.45

*Unsurveyed Areas (J&K) 120649.00
Total Geographical Area: 3287263.00
Source: 1:50,000 wasteland maps - 2003 prepared based on IRS-LISS III Data

Statement-ll

Funds released and areas treated under Area Development Programmes during the last three years (2002-03 To 2004-05)

SI. No.	State	Funds Released (Rs. in crores)	Area Treated (in lakh ha)	Funds Released (Rs. in crores)	Area Treated (in lakh	Funds Released (Rs. in crores)	Area Treated (in lakh ha)
		IWDP		DPAP		DDP	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	77.98	1.65	138.01	3.506	35.53	0.816
2.	Bihar	8.72	0.16	8.84	9.224		
3.	Chhattisgarh	34.71	0.64	47.22	1.189		
4.	Goa	0.83	0.02				
5.	Gujarat	43.00	0.91	91.73	2.33	147.11	3.109

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Haryana	11.07	0.850			52.75	1.202
7.	Himachal Pradesh	41.95	0.22	13.25	0.545	18.83	0.431
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	8.86	0.26	8.68	Q.219	11.21	0.512
9.	Jharkhand	5.20	0.09	28.31	0.713		
10.	Karnataka	61.81	1.35	79.84	2.022	60.42	1.37
11.	Kerala	5.71	0.11				
12.	Maharashtra	33.15	0.70	62.65	1.579		
13.	Madhya Pradesh	88.62	1.77	150.31	3.813		
14.	Orissa	42.83	0.89	30.89	0.782		
15.	Punjab	2.45	0.04				
16.	Rajasthan	49.91	1.02	49.84	1.262	287.66	6.56
17.	Tamil Nadu	53.02	1.06	62.78	1.58		
18.	Uttar Pradesh	54.34	1.19	46.73	1.188		
19.	Uttaranchal	19.28	0.36	19.76	0.498		
20.	West Bengal	2.39	0.04	5.94	0.15		
	TOTAL:	645.81	13.33	844.78	21.601	614.78	14.00
	Others			0.21			
	NORTH-EASTERN STATES						
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.14	0.30				
2.	Assam	63.73	1.18				
3.	Manipur	15.01	0.13				
4.	Meghalaya	6.62	0.31				
5.	Mizoram	27.43	0.50				
6.	Nagaland	53.20	1.03				
7.	Sikkim	7.77	0.17				
8.	Tripura	4.18	0.08				
	TOTAL:	194.09	3.70				
	G. TOTAL:	839.90	17.03	844.78	21.60	614.78	14.00

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, my first supplementary, through you, to the Minister is: How much wasteland has been brought under the Jatropa plantation to produce bio-diesel? And what are the future proposals to encourage the Jatropa plantation on a commercial basis? And also, Sir, has the National plantation on a commercial basis? And also, Sir, has the National Commission on Agriculture, headed by Dr. Swaminathan, given any recommendation to reclaim the wasteland?

श्री रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह: सभापति महोदय, यहां तक जेटरोपा (Jatropa) प्लांट लगाने का है दो लाख हेक्टेयर फारिस्ट के अंदर और दो लाख हेक्टेयर फॉरिस्ट के बाहर यह प्लांट लगाने की शुरुआत करने की योजना है औऱ जो स्वामीनाथन साहब की रिपोर्ट है, उसको हम देखेंगे और कार्रवाही करेंगे।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, my second supplementary is: Is there any plan to involve corporates to adopt wasteland as they do parks in cities? If' yes', how many, and which major corporates have adopted the wasteland? Is it true that Punjab is facing a severe crisis of wasteland with agriculture soil depleting fast due to salinity caused by excessive irrigation? Is it also true that it has caused a massive socio-economic crisis in Hoshiarpur District of the State? What steps is the Government taking to redress the problem?

श्री रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह: सभापति महोदय, अभी तक एरिया डवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम में इंटेग्रेटेड वेस्ट लेंड प्रोग्राम ड्रॉट प्रोन एरिया प्रोग्राम और डजर्ट डवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम, ये तीन प्रोग्राम हैं, जो हरियाली नाम से संचालित है औऱ उसी के अधीन हम वेस्ट लेंड कल्टीवेबल लेंड बनाने की कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं। अगर इसमें किसी कारपोरेट सेक्टर के लोग आगे आना चाहें, तो उनका स्वागत है, लेकिन अभी तक कारपोरेट सेक्टर की तरफ से इस तरह का प्रयास नहीं हुआ है।

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: सर, इनीसिएटिव तो आपको लेना पड़ेगा. आप प्रोग्राम बनाएंगे, तब तो लोग भी आएंगे।

श्री रघुवंश सिंह: हमारा प्रोग्राम बना हुआ है। हम उसको लागू कर रहे हैं। लेकिन कारपोरेट के लोग तो अपने लाभ के लिए करते हैं। परोपकार के लिए अगर कहीं कोई कारपोरेट हो, तो हम उसका स्वागत करेंगे।...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: श्री कृष्ण मुर्ति। ... (**व्यवधान**)... नैक्स्ट क्वैश्चन नंबर 407 ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री दत्ता मेघे: सभापति जी, हमें पूछना है। यह बहुत इम्पोर्टेट क्वैश्चन है।

श्री सभापति : नहीं आने भी बहुत महत्वपुर्ण क्वैश्चन हैं। ये मैम्बर्स ने दिये है, मेरे क्वैश्चन नहीं है।...(**व्यवधान**)... नहीं ठीक है....(**व्यवधान**)... महाराष्ट्र में तो सबसे ज्यादा खेती हो रही है। क्वैश्चन नंबर 407.

Import of agricultural produce

*407. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural produce imported during the last three years showing the countries from where they were imported;

(b) whether the imported agricultural produce is used for domestic consumption or for processing and export or both;